

Keep Your Pet Safe from Electricity

A frisky dog or curious cat can cause an electrical hazard or fire in ways you may not have thought about. Safe Electricity and Southern Illinois Electric Cooperative offer this safety checklist:

- Keep electrical cords away from animals so they don't chew on them and receive a severe or fatal shock. If you have difficulty getting your pet to stop chewing on the cord, you can paint it with a bitter tasting polish or wrap the cord in a thick plastic sleeve.
- Make sure nightlights and appliances are completely plugged into wall outlets. Partially exposed prongs are a hazard for curious animals.
- Keep halogen lamps away from play areas for pets and children. Some halogen bulbs can reach very high temperatures, and if knocked over during play, could easily start a fire.
- Keep appliances near sinks and bathtubs a safe distance away from the water source. Playful pets can knock radios, curling irons and other items into the water, creating a dangerous situation.
- Discourage pets from curling up for a nap behind warm computer equipment.

For more electrical safety information visit www.SafeElectricity.org or www.siec.coop.